IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 4, 9 to 18 and 20 to 22 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 8 and 19 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system having a first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and a second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, comprising:

a first speech ~~means~~ device provided for the first communication apparatus for performing the first speech communication;

a handset ~~second~~ speech ~~means~~ device provided for the second communication apparatus for performing the second speech communication;

a hands-free speech device provided for the second communication apparatus for performing the second speech communication;

a first detecting ~~means~~ device for detecting ~~a change of~~ a connection status between the first communication apparatus and the second communication apparatus;

a second detecting device for detecting a connection status of the first communication line; and

a switching ~~means~~ device for switching a speech communication ~~between~~ from the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech ~~means and~~ device to the second speech communication via the first communication line by

said ~~second~~ hands-free speech ~~means~~ device, in accordance with detecting ~~the change of the connection status~~ by said ~~detecting means~~ first detecting device and said second detecting device,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication by said first speech device and the second speech communication by said hands-free speech device.

2. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein said first detecting ~~means~~ device detects ~~the change of the~~ connection ~~status~~ based on an electrical connection status.

3. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein said first detecting ~~means~~ device detects ~~the change of~~ the connection ~~status~~ based on a physical connection status.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein, in the case that the first and second communication apparatuses are disconnected with each other while the second speech communication via the first communication line by the ~~second~~ hands-free speech ~~means~~ device is performed, said switching ~~means~~ device switches from the second speech communication via the first

communication line by the ~~second~~ hands-free speech ~~means~~ device to the first speech communication via the first communication line by the first speech ~~means~~ device.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, further comprising a supply ~~means~~ device for supplying a power from the second communication apparatus to the first communication apparatus, in accordance with the connection status between the first and second communication apparatus.

7. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 6, wherein said supply ~~means supplies the power~~ device charges a battery of the first communication apparatus while the first communication apparatus does not perform speech communication.

8. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, further comprising an echo canceller provided for the second communication apparatus, said echo canceller being used for the second communication via the second communication line, wherein the second speech communication via the first communication line by said second hands-free speech ~~means~~ device is performed via said echo canceller.

9. to 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A control method for a communication system having a first communication apparatus capable of a first speech communication via a first communication line and a second communication apparatus capable of a second speech communication via the first communication line or a second communication line, the first communication apparatus having a first speech device for performing the first speech communication, and the second communication apparatus having a ~~second~~ handset speech device and a hands-free speech device for performing the second speech communication, the method comprising:

a first detecting step of detecting ~~a change of~~ a connection ~~status~~ between the first and second communication apparatus;

a second detecting step of detecting a connection status of the first communication line; and

a switching step of switching the first speech communication via the first communication line by said first speech device ~~and~~ to the second speech communication via the first communication line by said ~~second~~ hands-free speech device, in accordance with detecting ~~the change of the connection status in said switching step~~ in said first detecting step and said second detecting step,

wherein the speech communication over the first communication line is maintained even if there is a switch between the first speech communication by said first device and the second speech communication by said hands-free speech device.

20. to 22. (Cancelled)